United Nations S/2001/837

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 September 2001
English
Original: French

Letter dated 31 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement concerning East Timor issued on 31 August 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean **De Ruyt**
Permanent Representative

01-52725 (E) 050901 050901

Annex to the letter dated 31 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English/French]

Statement concerning East Timor issued on 31 August 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes this historic moment for the East Timorese people, who have just taken part in the first democratic elections in their history. That crucial step paves the way for the establishment of political institutions for a new democratic State.

The European Union is pleased to note the preliminary findings of its observer mission, which reported that elections to the East Timorese Constituent Assembly were conducted calmly and peacefully on 30 August 2001.

The European Union congratulates the people of East Timor and their leaders, who have embarked upon a long independence process, now bringing its reward. It also applauds the United Nations, whose transitional administration of the territory has enabled the process to be brought to fruition.

The European Union takes this opportunity to reiterate its full support for the consolidation of the path to independence, and encourages East Timor's political representatives to follow the popular will freely expressed in these elections.

United Nations S/2001/838

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 September 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a press statement issued in Freetown on 3 September 2001 on the visit to Sierra Leone on that day of Their Excellencies Alpha Oumar Konare, President of the Republic of Mali and Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States, and Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim M. **Kamara**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-52731 (E) 050901

Annex to the letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of Security Council

Press statement issued in Freetown on 3 September 2001 on the visit to Sierra Leone on that day of Their Excellencies Alpha Oumar Konare, President of the Republic of Mali and Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States, and Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

1. On Monday, 3 September 2001, His Excellency President Alpha Oumar Konare, President of the Republic of Mali and Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and President Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, paid a one-day working visit to the Republic of Sierra Leone.

2. Presidents Konare and Obasanjo were received at Lungi international airport by their brother and colleague, Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, cabinet ministers, members of parliament, paramount chiefs and a cross-section of Sierra Leonean, Nigerian and Malian communities.

3. After the welcoming ceremonies, Presidents Oumar Konare, Olusegun Obasanjo and Tejan Kabbah flew to Koidu Town, headquarters of the Kono District in the Eastern Province, which is also the centre of diamond activities in Sierra Leone, to assess progress in the disarmament process in that part of the country.

4. On arrival in the Kono District, the two visiting Presidents were received by the Resident Minister of the Eastern Province, traditional rulers, personnel of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and a tumultuous crowd of Kono inhabitants amid great jubilation and traditional dancing.

5. The three Presidents also discussed the security situation in the Mano River Union and expressed their satisfaction over the various initiatives that have been undertaken by the Governments of the Mano River Union to promote reconciliation and restore stability to the region. They also commended the role of the Mano River Union Women's Network for Peace for promoting activities in support of the restoration of peace and stability to the Mano River Union subregion.

6. In this regard, Presidents Konare and Obasanjo expressed the hope that the recent meetings of foreign ministers of the Union held in Monrovia and the Joint Security Committee meeting held in Freetown would provide the necessary impetus for reconciliation and confidence-building among the States.

7. The two Presidents further endorsed the proposed meeting of Mano River Union foreign ministers in Conkary on 10 September 2001 and that of the Heads of State of the Mano River Union countries in order to restore trust in the Union and to reiterate their political will for improving the security situation in the Mano River Union subregion.

8. Now that peace was at hand, the three Heads of State enjoined all Sierra Leoneans to be law-abiding and to refrain from taking any actions that could reverse the progress that has been made so far in the restoration of peace and stability to the country.

9. With regard to progress in the peace process, the three Presidents expressed their sincere gratitude to the international community, particularly ECOWAS, the organization of African Unity and the United Nations, for giving constant support to the disarmament programme in Sierra Leone, as well as for their tireless efforts to restore peace and stability in the Mano River Union subregion and in all the other conflict areas on the African continent.

10. The three Heads of State further commended the role played by UNAMSIL, particularly under the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Oluyemi Adeniji, in accelerating the disarmament process not only in the Kono District but also in the rest of the country.

11. In order to achieve and consolidate stability within the Mano River Union States in particular and ECOWAS generally, the three Heads of State endorsed the extension of the moratorium on the importation and use of small arms within the ECOWAS subregion.

12. The three Presidents finally expressed concern over the activities of dissidents and armed groups in the subregion and called upon all member States of ECOWAS to strengthen their collaboration in dealing with the problem.

13. At the end of their visit, the two visiting Presidents expressed satisfaction over progress in the disarmament process in Sierra Leone generally and in the Kono District in particular and were optimistic about the successful conclusion to the war.

14. Presidents Konare and Obasanjo expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government and people of Sierra Leone for the warm reception and hospitality accorded them during their visit.

15. President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah thanked Presidents Konare and Obasanjo for the visit, which he described as a clear manifestation of their concern for the general welfare and security of Sierra Leone in particular and for the Mano River Union States as a whole.

United Nations S/2001/839

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 September 2001

Original: English

Report by the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of Ukraine on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a note verbale dated 30 August 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations stating that Mr. Andriy Beshta has been appointed alternate representative of the Ukraine on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

01-52797 (E) 050901

United Nations A/56/331–S/2001/840

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
5 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Item 178 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to several incidents of Palestinian terrorism directed against Israeli civilians in the last few days.

Within the space of seven hours on Sunday morning, 2 September 2001, four separate bombs exploded in the streets of Jerusalem. The first explosion occurred just after midnight in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of French Hill. Police were summoned after a suspicious object had been spotted in the front yard of an apartment building. As police attempted to neutralize the bomb, it exploded, damaging the side of the building. Just after 4 a.m., a large pipe bomb packed with nails and hidden under a parked truck exploded in the nearby neighbourhood of Ma'alot Dafna; one woman was treated for shock. Then, at 7.45 a.m., another bomb exploded in French Hill adjacent to the neighbourhood's commercial centre. One woman was lightly wounded in the blast. At roughly the same hour, a bomb exploded across town in the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Gilo, lightly injuring three people. A group calling itself the Abu Ali Mustafa Brigades of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for all four bombs.

This morning, yet another terrorist explosion occurred in the heart of Jerusalem. At approximately 7.45 a.m. a Palestinian suicide bomber detonated an explosive charge at the corner of Strauss and Hanevi'im Streets near the central Russian Compound section and just a few metres from the Sbarro restaurant that was bombed on 9 August 2001. Thirteen people were wounded in the blast, two of them seriously.

These five bombings are the latest manifestations of an escalating campaign of Palestinian terrorism that is now entering its twelfth month. Previous incidents have been detailed in my letters dated 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001

* A/56/150.

01-52854 (E) 060901

(A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108), and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

These attacks come in addition to scores of others, including drive-by shootings, stabbings and mortar fire, that have targeted Israeli civilians as they drive on roads, go shopping and even as they sit peacefully in their homes. To date, 164 Israelis have been killed and over 1,600 have been injured in thousands of separate terrorist attacks.

The State of Israel holds the Palestinian leadership responsible for these attacks in light of its unending incitement to hatred and violence, its refusal to fulfil its obligations to control terrorism emanating from the territory under its control and the role, both active and tacit, of the Palestinian security forces in planning and implementing terrorist attacks on Israeli targets. In a flagrant and dangerous departure from its fundamental commitment to non-violence, the Palestinian leadership has embraced the path of violence and confrontation as a means to achieve its political goals.

Israel utterly condemns this destructive and futile decision and calls upon the Palestinian leadership to act in accordance with its commitments, to renounce the use of violence and terror, and to control and discipline those who engage in violence against Israeli civilians.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aaron **Jacob**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations A/56/332–S/2001/841

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
5 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Item 54 of the provisional agenda*
The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 31 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to reproduce below, for your information and for circulation as a document of the General Assembly, under item 54 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session, and of the Security Council, the comments of the spokesman of the Foreign Office of Pakistan in response to a question on the misgivings arising from a reported statement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on Pakistan's compliance with the agreement on the screening of Afghan refugees and also about Pakistan's role in the efforts for the release of aid workers detained by the Taliban authorities.

> "As for the first part of your question, Pakistan is not throwing out any Afghan refugees who are in the Jallozai or Shamshattoo camps, where a joint screening by a UNHCR team and officials of the Pakistan Refugee Commission is taking place. However, Pakistan is not in a position to absorb any further flows of Afghan refugees, who are mostly economic migrants. We have repeatedly requested the United Nations and also other international organizations to provide relief to displaced Afghans inside Afghanistan. Relief should be provided to areas controlled by the Northern Alliance and areas controlled by the Taliban Government so that these displaced Afghans do not have to leave Afghanistan in search of food and other relief assistance.
>
> "As your know, Pakistan has been host to the largest refugee population in the world for more than two decades now. At present, the Afghan refugees number close to 2.5 million. Since last September, Pakistan has received close to 200,000 Afghan refugees, mostly because of the drought conditions and extreme economic hardships in that country. We are not in a position to receive and take care of further influx of Afghan refugees.

* A/56/150.

01-53012 (E) 070901

"This position should be understood by the international community, in particular against the backdrop of the news flashed on television screens of late, when a country the size of a continent finds it within its rights to turn back a ship carrying about 400 Afghan asylum-seekers from its territorial waters. It was also very aptly put by the UNHCR High Commissioner himself, Mr. Ruud Lubbers, in an article in a British paper last June, where he queried how he could ask the Pakistani officials to accept more refugees when in some of the 'industrialized and far richer countries asylum-seekers are treated like a modern day version of the plague-rat'. So I think Pakistan's position that it is no longer able to absorb further flows of refugees should be well understood.

"Regarding the second part of your question on Pakistan's role with regard to the ongoing efforts for the release of the international aid workers detained in Afghanistan, Pakistan has been doing whatever it can and it will continue to do whatever it can, so that this problem is amicably resolved."

(*Signed*) Shamshad **Ahmad**

United Nations S/2001/842

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 September 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith, pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1330 (2000), a report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait on the implementation of the oil-for-food programme (see annex).

The report was approved by the Committee on 31 August 2001.

(*Signed*) Ole Peter **Kolby**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the
situation between Iraq and Kuwait

01-52885 (E) 060901

Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait on the implementation of the arrangements in paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 986 (1995)

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1330 (2000), in which the Committee was requested, in close consultation with the Secretary-General, to report to the Council prior to the end of the 180-day period after the entry into force of paragraph 1 of the above resolution on the implementation of the arrangements in paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 986 (1995). In paragraph 1 of resolution 1330 (2000), the Council decided that the provisions of resolution 986 (1995), except those contained in paragraphs 4, 11 and 12 and subject to paragraph 15 of resolution 1284 (1999), would remain in force for a new period of 180 days beginning at 00:01 hours, Eastern Standard Time, on 6 December 2000. In resolution 1352 (2001), adopted on 1 June 2001, the Security Council decided to extend the provisions of resolution 1330 (2000) until 3 July 2001.

2. The present report, the sixteenth of its kind, covers the Committee's major activities with regard to the implementation of the above arrangements during phase IX of the oil-for-food programme from 6 December 2000 to 3 July 2001 when the extension period ended.

II. Sale of petroleum and petroleum products

3. From the beginning of phase IX until 3 July 2001 the export of petroleum from Iraq is clearly divided into three periods, the first period, when the export levels were low due in part to the decline in market prices, but predominantly to the reduced rate of Iraqi oil export, and the second period, when export levels returned to normal. Some 100 million barrels of crude oil export valued at some $2.5 billion have been lost as a result of erratic exports in the first period. During the third period exports were suspended by Iraq for about a month after the adoption of resolution 1352 (2001). During this period some $1.3 billion could have been generated in the oil revenue for Iraq.

4. The oil overseers continued to advise the Committee on oil pricing mechanisms, oil contract approval and amendments, management of revenue objectives and other pertinent questions related to export and monitoring under Security Council resolutions 986 (1995), 1175 (1998), 1242 (1999), and 1330 (2000). In this respect, the oil overseers submitted a comprehensive report on development in the contractual structure for Iraqi crude oil exports to the Committee.

5. During the current phase IX, two irregularities in the crude oil export operations have been detected and reported to the Committee by the oil overseers. Both cases involved potential loss of revenue to the United Nations Iraq account because of non-compliance with the authorized discharge destination. In order to

decrease the possibility of such deviations in the future, the oil overseers initiated the issuance of a notification to ships' masters, advising the authorized export destination. This commenced on 1 April 2001.

6. As at 3 July 2001, the oil overseers, on behalf of the Committee, approved 177 oil contracts involving purchasers from 45 countries. The total quantity of oil approved for export under those contracts corresponds to approximately 578 million barrels with an estimated value of euro 13.2 billion. However the contracted volume far exceeded the real export volume under phase IX, which was 292 million barrels, and the total revenue generated under phase IX is euro 6.668 billion, or $5.675 billion (before deduction of pipeline fees; at current prices and the current rate of exchange). The generated revenue is some $4 billion less than in the previous phase VIII, due to reasons set out in paragraph 3 above. All contracts submitted used the pricing mechanisms approved by the Committee, on the recommendation of the overseers.

7. As at 3 July 2001, 188 loadings, totalling 292 million barrels worth euro 6,668 million ($5,675 million, at the current rate of exchange) have been completed. Letters of credit opened for each of the loadings were reviewed and confirmed by the overseers to be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the approved contracts. About 35 per cent of the loadings were made at Ceyhan in Turkey.

8. The overseers have worked with the independent inspection agents (Saybolt Nederland BV) to ensure the effective monitoring of the relevant oil installations and the loadings. In this regard they have received the full cooperation of the Iraqi authorities.

9. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of the procedures of the Committee (S/1996/636), 871 national oil purchasers from 81 countries have been nominated, all of whom are authorized to communicate directly with the overseers.

10. Pursuant to paragraph 14 of the procedures of the Committee, the overseers have continued to report to it weekly on contracts considered by them regarding the sale of petroleum originating in Iraq, including the cumulative quantity and approximate value of petroleum authorized for export. As at 3 July 2001, 238 reports have been submitted to the Committee.

III. Humanitarian supplies to Iraq

11. As in previous phases, during phase IX, the Committee continued to attach high priority to the work of processing contracts for the supply of humanitarian goods to Iraq.

12. As at 30 June 2001, the Secretariat had received 2,650 applications under phase VIII for exports of humanitarian supplies to Iraq. Of that total, 65 were judged to be incomplete and non-compliant and 55 were judged to be inactive; 22 are still being processed; 79 were declared null and void; 864 were notified by the Secretariat and 1,565 have been circulated to Committee members for action. Of those sent to the Committee, 1,257 have been approved, totalling approximately $3.2 billion; 9 are still pending under the "no-objection" procedure and 299, with a total value of $1.31 billion, have been placed on hold. During phase IX, from the beginning of phase IX and up till 30 June 2001, the Secretariat received 1,103 applications for the export of humanitarian supplies to Iraq. Of that total, 4 were

declared null and void, 91 were deemed incomplete or non-compliant, 587 were notified by the Secretariat, 247 were circulated to Committee members for action and 174 are still being processed. Of those sent to the Committee for consideration, 172 have been approved, totalling approximately $522 million; 28 are still pending under the "no-objection" procedure and 47, with a total value of $230.6 million, have been placed on hold. During the reporting period, 892 applications were released from hold with a total value of $2,046,118,433. These figures correspond to all the applications (all phases) released from hold during the reporting period. From the beginning of the programme to 30 June 2001, 8,303 applications have been approved with a total value of $17,129,389,149. As of 30 June 2001, 889 applications are still on hold with a total value of $2,892,954,492.

13. Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 1330 (2000), the Committee approved a number of expanded lists of humanitarian items submitted in accordance with paragraph 17 of resolution 1284 (1999) and paragraph 8 of resolution 1302 (2000). The lists of additional educational items, water and sanitation items and food-handling items were approved on 12 February 2001. The list of additional agricultural items was approved on 23 February 2001 and the list of additional items in the health sector was approved on 27 February 2001. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 1330 (2000), the Committee approved the list of basic or standard items for the housing sector on 27 February 2001. The list of items for the electricity sector under phase IX was also approved by the Committee on 24 May 2001. In accordance with the aforementioned resolutions, supplies of those items on the approved lists will not be submitted for the Committee's approval, except for items subject to the provisions of resolution 1051 (1996), the Secretary-General will be notified and they will be financed in accordance with the provisions of subparagraphs 8 (a) and (b) of resolution 986 (1995). Under phase IX, 330 contracts were notified, with a total value of $1.27 billion.

14. The work of goods-arrival-confirmation by the United Nations independent inspection agents (Cotecna) has continued according to the established procedures at the four entry points to Iraq at Al-Walid, Trebil, Umm Qasr and Zakho. As in previous phases, the Iraqi authorities have accorded the independent agents full cooperation in their work. From the start of the programme to 30 June 2001, approximately 7,400 consignments of humanitarian supplies from previous phases for the 59 per cent account, with a value of $12.5 billion, have been confirmed as having arrived in Iraq in total or in partial shipments.

15. In accordance with the recommendations contained in the letters of the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council of 22 October 1999 (S/1999/1086) and 3 October 2000 (S/2000/950), members of the Committee continue reviewing humanitarian contracts placed on hold during the reporting period. Representatives from relevant United Nations agencies operating in Iraq and the Office of the Iraq Programme have briefed members of the Committee on those occasions.

IV. Matters relating to oil spare parts and equipment to Iraq

16. The Committee has made continuous efforts to expedite the approval of applications for oil spare parts and equipment required for the oil sector. Pursuant to

paragraph 18 of resolution 1284 (1999), the Security Council requested the Group of Experts appointed by the Committee to approve contracts for the parts and equipment referred to in paragraph 1 of resolution 1175 (1998). On 1 December 2000 the Committee approved an amended project-based list of oil spare parts and equipment for the Iraqi oil industry related to phase VIII. On 21 February 2001, the Committee received a new project-based list of oil spare parts and equipment for the Iraqi oil industry under phase IX. The list was approved with amendment on 25 May 2001.

17. During the period of the present report (phase IX) and up until 30 June 2001, the Secretariat received 87 applications related to the oil sector. From this total, one application was declared null and void, five were deemed incomplete or non-compliant, eight were notified by the Secretariat, nine were circulated to Committee members for action and 64 are still being processed. Of those sent to the Committee for consideration, one application has been approved, totalling approximately $3.58 million; three are still pending under the "no-objection" procedure and five applications, with a total value of $2.84 million, have been placed on hold.

18. From the beginning of the process to 30 June 2001, the total allocation for oil spare parts and equipment amounted to $3 billion. The number of applications received by the Committee for oil spare parts and equipment to Iraq under previous resolutions has reached a total of 3,871 with a value of $2.6 billion. Of these, 93 were judged to be incomplete or non-compliant and 30 were judged to be inactive; 3,086 were circulated to the members of the Committee for their consideration; a total of 137 were declared null and void, or cancelled, 1 was blocked and 180 are under active processing; a total of 345 were approved by the Office of the Iraq Programme. Of the 3,086 applications circulated, 2,643 have been approved, with a total value of $1.45 billion; 434 applications valued at $430,859,976 have been placed on hold and 9 applications are pending under the "no-objection" procedure. As at 30 June 2001, partial or complete deliveries of contracts for spare parts and equipment for the oil sector were made up to a value of some $792 million. During the reporting period, 285 such contracts were released from hold with a total value of $179,796,527. These figures correspond to all the applications (all phases) released from hold during the reporting period.

19. Members of the Committee have reviewed those contracts for oil spare parts and equipment that have been placed on hold and will continue to do so as necessary in the future, in accordance with the letters of the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/1086 and S/2000/950).

V. Other activities

20. The Committee held 12 formal and frequent informal consultations at the expert level during the reporting period to discuss various issues related to the humanitarian situation in Iraq and the implementation of the oil-for-food programme.

21. The Committee has initiated a series of informal meetings on sectoral activities on a monthly basis, with presentation by the United Nations agencies and programmes concerned, as well as discussions on holds in each sector. The first meeting took place on 3 April 2001, at which the Committee received a briefing by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the housing situation

in Iraq. On 4 May 2001, Committee members received a briefing by representatives of the International Telecommunication Union on the present situation concerning Iraq's telecommunications sector.

22. On 1 February 2001, members of the Committee received a briefing by the Secretariat on the payment mechanisms and commercial protection under the 53 per cent (or ESB) account. Discussions on the issues involved are still inconclusive.

23. On 19 March 2001, the Committee was briefed by the Secretariat on the diversification of banking services for the United Nations Iraq account. It was confirmed that a euro account had been opened with BNP Paribas.

24. The Secretariat brought to the attention of the Committee Iraq's delay in issuing visas to United Nations personnel to enter Iraq. The Committee, through a démarche and a subsequent letter to the Iraqi Government, reiterated the relevant provisions of the memorandum of understanding and urged Iraq to fulfil its obligations and expeditiously address that issue. During the reporting period, there was no subsequent change in the position of Iraq.

25. The discussion related to illegal oil surcharge, commission on humanitarian goods and port fees is still under way.

26. The Committee sent a letter, through the oil overseers, to the company Glencore International AG whose oil imports from Iraq had been found to be subject to irregularities. The Committee warned the company that all its future contracts would be scrutinized and that any irregularities would be brought to the immediate attention of the Committee. Meanwhile, the Committee requested the Swiss authorities to make an investigation of the company's activities and provide the results of the investigation to the Committee.

VI. Conclusions

27. The Committee will continue working closely with the Office of the Iraq Programme and all parties concerned to ensure the effective implementation of the arrangements in paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 986 (1995). As in the past, the Committee wishes to reiterate its appreciation to all parties concerned for their cooperation and contribution.

United Nations S/2001/843

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 September 2001

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on Ethiopia and Eritrea

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1344 (2001) of 15 March 2001, which extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) until 15 September 2001. The report contains an update on political, humanitarian and human rights developments, as well as on the deployment and activities of UNMEE since my report of 19 June 2001 (S/2001/608). It also provides recommendations regarding the extension of the mandate of UNMEE.

II. Status of the Temporary Security Zone

Final map of the Temporary Security Zone

2. On 21 and 22 June 2001, UNMEE presented its final map of the Temporary Security Zone to the Eritrean and Ethiopian authorities, respectively. My Special Representative, Mr. Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, urged the parties to accept the map despite their objections to some parts of the boundary of the Zone as established by UNMEE.

3. Following the establishment of the final map of the Temporary Security Zone, Ethiopia stated that the map was unacceptable because of two "errors". It asserted that an 8-kilometre-wide pocket at the eastern end of Sector East should be returned to Ethiopia; and that the Zone should be uniformly 25 kilometres wide, which is not the case in Sector Centre, north of the Irob area. For its part, Eritrea has indicated that it could not accept the map as it was a departure from the proposals originally presented to the parties on 30 January 2001. In particular, the Eritrean authorities have indicated that the Zone could not be considered as "fully established" until their concerns regarding the southern boundary of the Zone had been addressed. However, while neither party has formally accepted the map, so far they have in fact based their operations on it, and have cooperated with UNMEE on the ground in the management of the Zone, in accordance with the parameters established in the map.

4. Despite the continued respect of the Temporary Security Zone by the parties, their disagreement over some parameters of the final map remains a source of concern. On several occasions, Eritrea invoked its disagreement with the southern boundary of the Zone in its refusal to cooperate on other issues related to the work of UNMEE. This position has delayed the resolution of a number of issues, including the restrictions on the freedom of movement of UNMEE in the northern areas adjacent to the Zone, the signing of the status-of-forces agreement, the convening of sector-level meetings of the Military Coordination Commission and the provision of information on the number of militia and police inside the Zone.

Presence of militia and police in the Temporary Security Zone

5. Despite repeated requests, Eritrea has not provided to UNMEE the information on the local militia and police inside the Temporary Security Zone necessary for the Mission to verify that the functions and configuration of the militia and police do not exceed those that prevailed before the outbreak of the conflict. Moreover, UNMEE has also not been able to determine whether the number of Eritrean police and militia already deployed to the Zone is commensurate with the size of the population of the Zone.

01-52647 (E) 050901

6. Nevertheless, UNMEE estimates that approximately 6,800 Eritrean militia and 3,000 police are currently deployed inside the Temporary Security Zone. The estimated number of militia has risen since that indicated in my last report to the Security Council on 19 June 2001 (5,500), although the estimated number of police remains very close to the previous figure of 3,100 personnel.

7. My Special Representative and the Force Commander have repeatedly urged the Eritrean authorities not to deploy police and militia close to the southern boundary of the Zone. Nevertheless, on at least one occasion, their deployment too close to the southern boundary led to increased tensions between the parties in some sections of the boundary. In addition, UNMEE has recorded and protested several violations by the police and militia of the Protocol Agreement on the Presence of Police and Militia in the Temporary Security Zone, signed between UNMEE and Eritrea on 16 April 2001. In particular, the Eritrean militia and police have contravened the provisions of the Protocol relating to the type of weapons they are allowed to carry and to the stockpiling of weapons in the Zone. Despite these concerns, cooperation and communication between UNMEE and the police and militia at the field level have been relatively good. UNMEE continues to discuss with both parties smaller issues related to the presence of armed forces, police and militia on and around the southern boundary.

Freedom of movement of UNMEE

8. During the reporting period, UNMEE continued to experience restrictions on its freedom of movement. Eritrea has maintained its position that UNMEE should enjoy freedom of movement only within the Temporary Security Zone and main designated access routes to it, but not in the areas adjacent to the Zone. Such restrictions have hindered the ability of UNMEE to monitor the area north of the Zone where Eritrean Defence Forces are positioned. On a few occasions, the Mission's freedom of movement was restricted by the Ethiopian Armed Forces owing to insufficient coordination among some of their elements. It should be recalled that monitoring the redeployment and positions of the forces of the two countries is a key provision of the Mission's mandate in accordance with the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, signed by Ethiopia and Eritrea in Algiers on 18 June 2000 (S/2000/601, annex). All these issues have been repeatedly raised with the parties, including within the Military Coordination Commission.

Military Coordination Commission

9. At the seventh meeting of the Military Coordination Commission (MCC) held in Nairobi on 27 June 2001, the Commission discussed plans for the opening of the Mereb River Bridge, the current and future challenges faced by civilians returning to their homes and the freedom of movement of UNMEE. With regard to the format of MCC meetings, Eritrea continued to maintain that it was premature to hold sector MCCs until the Temporary Security Zone was "fully established", and its representative questioned the holding of future meetings of MCC either in Asmara or Addis Ababa. At the same time, the parties continued their discussions on a draft procedure for the collection and exchange of the remains of soldiers killed during the conflict.

10. The eighth meeting of the Commission, held in Nairobi on 8 August 2001, focused on confidence-building measures related to priority objectives set by the parties for the next six months, namely, border security and the return of internally displaced persons. UNMEE made several proposals, which the parties agreed to consider, in particular concerning a joint visit of their military authorities to UNMEE locations on both sides of the southern boundary of the Temporary Security Zone and the holding of meetings between village leaders on both sides of the southern boundary to discuss local issues of concern. The Commission also considered the possibility of holding its future meetings on the southern boundary or in UNMEE camps.

Deployment of UNMEE

11. On 5 July 2001, Brigadier General Peter Manyara (Kenya) arrived in the Mission area to assume his duties as Deputy Force Commander and Chief Military Observer. The military component of UNMEE is now widely deployed throughout the Mission area. The Mission's observation posts, combined with the daily patrols conducted by UNMEE Military Observers, ensure the monitoring of the Temporary Security Zone and its adjacent areas. As at 31 August, the strength of the military component of UNMEE stood at 3,870 military personnel from over 40 countries, including 3,655 troops and 215 military observers.

12. From 1 to 19 May, a number of one-day courses on "gender and peacekeeping" had been conducted in UNMEE as part of a Gender Awareness programme being developed for peacekeeping missions by the United Nations Secretariat. The training was provided by a gender specialist from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations together with the UNMEE training unit and human rights personnel. The course was delivered in three field locations — Assab, Adigrat and Barentu, as well as Addis Ababa and Asmara. The course was well received and gave rise to requests for further training. The course material has been subsequently integrated into induction courses delivered by the UNMEE training unit to newly deployed contingents.

III. Mine action

13. A positive step was the signature, on 27 August 2001, by the Government of Eritrea of the 1997 Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

14. As indicated in my last report, the Government of Eritrea has handed over 331 minefield records to UNMEE. The Government of Ethiopia has provided the Mission with 17 out of the 30 danger area records jointly compiled by the international non-governmental organization, the HALO Trust, and the Ethiopian Demining Project, which focused on the Ethiopian positions during the war. While Ethiopia has consistently stated that it does not possess centralized mine records, it agreed to facilitate an information collection project organized by the UNMEE Mine Action Coordination Centre in the three sectors. However, the project was tested in Sector East and found unsatisfactory, and UNMEE is urging the Ethiopian authorities to develop new procedures for the collection of relevant mine information from Ethiopian army engineers.

15. Landmines remain a major threat in the Temporary Security Zone and in areas adjacent to it. While the number of officially reported mine and unexploded ordnance incidents was lower than expected, particularly in view of the large number of internally displaced persons returning to the Zone in recent months, it still remains high. From 1 June to 31 August 2001, eight civilians were killed and 24 were injured in mine and unexploded ordnance incidents in the Zone and adjacent areas. On 18 August, eight Jordanian peacekeepers were injured after their water truck hit a mine in the western sector. The investigation carried out by UNMEE concluded that the incident had likely been caused by a deeply buried anti-tank mine, which had remained undetected during the demining process but moved towards the surface as a result of changing weather conditions.

16. At the same time, it should be noted that the humanitarian mine action situation in the Temporary Security Zone improved over the reporting period. Training of humanitarian demining teams continued in collaboration with the Eritrean Mine Action Programme, the National Eritrean Training Centre and the non-governmental Eritrean Demining Agency. The Mine Action Coordination Centre and international non-governmental organizations assisted in this training programme, and additional mine action teams were deployed to the Zone. Currently, 800 Eritrean personnel work in the Zone, organized in 14 manual clearance teams, five mechanical clearance teams, nine explosive ordnance disposal and survey units, and one explosive detection dog team.

17. From 1 June to 31 August 2001, mine-clearance teams set up by the Eritrean Demining Agency, the HALO Trust, the Danish Demining Group and the Danish Church Aid cleared 2,697,136 square metres of minefield and battlefield areas in the Temporary Security Zone and marked an additional 436,000 square metres of minefields. The ordnance disposal teams of these organizations destroyed 23 anti-tank mines, 627 anti-personnel mines and 10,086 unexploded ordnance.

18. Complementing the humanitarian mine action efforts, the Slovak and Bangladeshi military demining units of UNMEE continued to probe routes and clear key operational sites in Sectors West and Centre. A joint Slovak-Kenyan military demining company has been formed and operates in Sector East. UNMEE contingent ordnance disposal teams destroyed several anti-tank and anti-personnel mines and 1,925 unexploded ordnance. From 1 June to 31 August, UNMEE demining units also cleared 151 kilometres of road and 1,300,020 square metres of operational sites.

19. In close cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and national and international non-governmental organizations, UNMEE has expanded mine awareness programmes for the local

population of the Temporary Security Zone and its adjacent areas. Mine awareness information has been developed for broadcast on the Eritrean radio, and special posters and other information material have been produced in large numbers and distributed in local communities. During the reporting period, 30 personnel from national and international non-governmental organizations have been trained as mine awareness facilitators, and around 18,000 persons throughout the Temporary Security Zone attended mine awareness sessions.

20. The UNMEE budget continues to provide for the core staff and equipment of the Mine Action Coordination Centre to enable it to carry out its coordination role, technical advice and information management. Furthermore, the Centre, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has taken a proactive role in the development of national capacities to ensure that the necessary resources are mobilized to deal with the current mine threat. The Centre also strives to ascertain that sufficient sustainable capacity is available in the medium term, in order to ensure a smooth transition of mine action activities to a post-Mission environment.

IV. Boundary Commission and Claims Commission

21. Since my last report, the composition of the Boundary Commission and of the Claims Commission, established in accordance with the Peace Agreement concluded between Eritrea and Ethiopia in Algiers on 12 December 2000 (A/55/686-S/2000/1183, annex), has been completed. The two vacancies, caused by the resignation of one Commissioner on each of the commissions, have been filled. Information on the main activities of the Boundary Commission since my last report, provided by its President, is contained in annex I to this report.

22. So far, the Boundary Commission's activities continue to be financed from the Trust Fund for the Delimitation and Demarcation of the Border established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1177 (1998) and from the disbursements received from the parties. Thus far, the parties have made initial contributions towards the expenses of the Commission, which requested them to make a second contribution. Voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, received and pledged from various Member States, currently represent a total of over $5.4 million. I would like to express my appreciation to those Member States which have generously heeded my appeal to contribute to the Fund, and to reiterate my call to the parties to meet their obligation to bear the cost of the Boundary Commission.

V. Humanitarian developments

Return of internally displaced persons and refugees

23. As a result of the effective patrolling conducted by the military component of UNMEE, the return of civilian administration, police and militia to the Zone, as well as the continued efforts of the humanitarian community, security conditions in the Temporary Security Zone have improved. This has led to the return of internally displaced persons previously accommodated in camps in the Gash Barka and Debub zones. To date, a total of 170,000 such persons have returned to their villages in the Zone, with the assistance of the Eritrean Relief and Refugee Committee and international humanitarian agencies.

24. However, a total of 70,000 persons still live in consolidated or newly established temporary camps, as their home areas remain inaccessible owing to the presence of mines and unexploded ordnance, insecurity caused by the close proximity of villages to the southern boundary of the Temporary Security Zone, or the fact that some villages are located in areas currently under Ethiopian administration. With regard to the latter, the Ethiopian authorities have agreed in principle that Eritrean internally displaced persons can return to those villages. However, the details and procedures for their return still need to be defined.

25. Since the majority of internally displaced persons have now returned to their home areas, the attention of the humanitarian community in Ethiopia and Eritrea is focused on providing emergency and reconstruction assistance. With the heavy rains of the last two months, shelter materials have become a priority for returning Eritrean internally displaced persons. United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and the Eritrean Relief and Refugee Committee have therefore initiated programmes to provide housing materials to some of the worst affected villages. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with the

support of the Government of the Netherlands, has initiated a pilot project to rehabilitate 2,000 houses in Tsorona and 1,000 in Senafe, both in Sector Centre. Water and sanitation are also among the priorities of the humanitarian community; UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and several non-governmental organizations are actively involved in the water sector. A number of agencies, including UNICEF, are also actively participating in school reconstruction and in the supply of school equipment and education materials.

26. While the health of returning internally displaced persons is relatively good, there is a concern that it could deteriorate in areas where medical and water facilities have been damaged or destroyed. United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations are working closely with the Eritrean Ministry of Health to provide basic health-care services in these areas and to rehabilitate, re-equip, and re-staff local health centres in the Temporary Security Zone.

27. While efforts are being made to improve the agriculture sector, its output in 2001 will not reach pre-conflict levels. As a result, many people in both countries will continue to require food aid until next year's harvest.

28. The voluntary repatriation of Eritrean refugees from the Sudan has been temporarily slowed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a result of the impassability of many roads because of heavy rains. It is expected that major repatriation convoys will resume in September. In the meantime, preparations are under way to facilitate the voluntary repatriation from camps in the Port Sudan area, where some 4,000 Eritrean refugees are currently living. To date, a total of 20,984 refugees have been repatriated from the Sudan, out of 62,000 persons who were expected to return in 2001.

29. Contributions to the United Nations Consolidated Appeal for Eritrea now stand at approximately 56 per cent, an increase since June 2001. Although this is encouraging, additional food aid pledges for victims of natural disasters and internally displaced persons are urgently needed for both Ethiopia and Eritrea, and there are still significant shortfalls in all the non-food sectors. Emergency interventions, as well as major rehabilitation and reconstruction initiatives, must be undertaken for returning internally displaced persons in Ethiopia and Eritrea. I therefore urge donors to respond to the appeals made by United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations for these programmes. In view of the continuing humanitarian needs related to displacement of the populations and drought, the United Nations Country Teams in Ethiopia and Eritrea will launch consolidated appeals for the year of 2002 in November 2001.

Release and repatriation of prisoners of war

30. The release and repatriation of prisoners of war have come to a halt, despite the commitment made by both Governments under article 2, paragraph 1, of the Peace Agreement of 12 December 2000, which stipulated that "the parties shall without delay release and repatriate all prisoners of war". According to figures provided by ICRC, approximately 1,800 prisoners of war remain in Ethiopia and 400 in Eritrea.

Quick-impact projects

31. In line with the recommendations contained in the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809), $700,000 was included in the UNMEE regular budget for quick-impact projects designed to make a difference in the lives of people in the Mission area. Over the last six months, UNMEE, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, government Ministries and local administrations have submitted projects covering activities related to water, sanitation, education, health and social services.

32. The quick-impact projects of UNMEE cover the Temporary Security Zone, its adjacent areas and some other conflict-affected areas in both Eritrea and Ethiopia. Their cost ranges from as little as $100 to a maximum of $15,000. The Quick-Impact Projects Committee has approved 15 projects in Ethiopia and 28 in Eritrea. These projects have allowed UNMEE to assist a number of war-affected groups in the two countries, and have helped to establish a closer relationship between UNMEE units at the field level, local administrations and communities.

33. As the initial allocation of $700,000 is expected to be exhausted soon, the creation of the special Trust Fund to Support the Peace Process in Ethiopia and Eritrea was approved with effect from 16 July this year. The Fund would enable UNMEE to continue to support quick-impact projects for emergency reconstruction programmes and confidence-building efforts in the

Temporary Security Zone and adjacent areas in both countries.

VI. Human rights

34. During the reporting period, ICRC assisted the repatriation of 3,522 persons of Ethiopian descent from Eritrea. Those repatriated included individuals held in detention centres for periods from several weeks to up to seven months, reportedly on national security concerns. They also included persons with expired residence documentation and families who, forced by adverse circumstances, "opted" for repatriation. Since December 2000, a total of 19,853 persons have been repatriated to Ethiopia.

35. On 25 June 2001, a group of 704 persons of Eritrean descent, mostly long-term residents of the Tigray region in Ethiopia, were sent to Eritrea without the assistance of ICRC. The latter withdrew from the process when it became clear that the manner in which these repatriations were carried out was not in accordance with international humanitarian law.

36. By a letter dated 6 July 2001, UNMEE protested to the Government of Ethiopia the circumstances of these repatriations. The Mission recalled that under article 2, paragraph 3, of the Peace Agreement of 12 December 2000, the parties committed themselves to "afford humane treatment to each other's nationals and persons of each other's national origin within their respective territories". In a letter dated 2 August 2001 addressed to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Meles Zenawi, I expressed my concern over the circumstances under which these repatriations took place. I stressed that repatriations should be carried out with full respect for international human rights and humanitarian law, and in accordance with the Peace Agreement. In its reply dated 8 August 2001 to the Mission's letter of 6 July 2001, the Government of Ethiopia maintained that the persons were repatriated to Eritrea of their own free will, after the competent authorities "ascertained that the individuals did surrender their Ethiopian nationalities in favour of an Eritrean one in accordance with the Ethiopian law".

37. As part of its monitoring of the treatment of Ethiopians in Eritrea and Eritreans in Ethiopia, UNMEE conducted interviews with individuals repatriated by both countries. Several serious human rights concerns emerged from information gathered during these interviews, including the issue of long-term detention, without due process and often under poor conditions; allegations of ill-treatment; discrimination in access to social services and employment; and harassment by civilians and officials. In many cases the repatriations have resulted in family separations, as families were not able to leave together or, in the cases of families of mixed parentage, were not able to remain together in the same country. In some cases, repatriated individuals of mixed parentage were left stateless, as the country to which they were repatriated did not grant them its nationality.

38. UNMEE has been carrying out human rights monitoring activities within the Temporary Security Zone and its adjacent areas, and has investigated a number of allegations that soldiers or militia have abducted or arrested individuals of the other nationality and held them for short periods. In some cases, the allegations have been confirmed. Those detained often state that they are questioned about the activities of the military, militia and police in the area and are sometimes ill-treated.

39. I should like again to appeal to both Ethiopia and Eritrea to reconsider their respective positions on the eviction of each other's nationals. These evictions have been the source of great suffering and emotional distress for those affected. I urge the parties strictly to comply with international human rights and humanitarian law standards, as well as with their commitments under the Peace Agreement of 12 December 2000.

VII. Public information

40. UNMEE continues to actively explain the Mission's mandate, report on the peace process, and address the most pressing concerns of returning internally displaced persons, with particular focus on awareness of mines and unexploded ordnance. In addition to its regular radio programme, UNMEE produces leaflets and other printed material and a monthly newsletter, and regularly provides photographic and television news material through an international agency based in Nairobi.

41. The public information section of the Mission conducts regular press briefings in both capitals, arranges interviews and facilitates access to the Temporary Security Zone for members of the media.

UNMEE also brought together journalists from Ethiopia and Eritrea in an effort to build confidence between the populations of the two countries. The first such event took place on 7 July 2001, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Mereb River Bridge donated by the Government of the Netherlands, and then at a joint Ethiopian-Eritrean press conference held on 9 August, also on the Mereb River Bridge. Such confidence-building measures are all the more essential as the press in both countries has been engaged in inflammatory reporting. It should be recalled that I particularly addressed this issue during my visit to UNMEE in December of 2000 and in my previous reports to the Security Council.

42. It is my hope that agreement will soon be reached with the Ethiopian authorities that would allow UNMEE to broadcast its weekly radio programmes. In the meantime, its programme continues to be broadcast on the Eritrean Radio and is posted by the Department of Public Information on the United Nations web site in English and six local languages (Amharic, Arabic, Afar Oromo, Tigre, Ethiopian-Tigrinya and Eritrean-Tigrinya).

VIII. Confidence-building measures

43. UNMEE continues to facilitate confidence-building measures aimed at improving relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Such measures have become an important aspect of UNMEE efforts to consolidate peace between the two countries, and the Mission is pursuing all possible avenues in this regard. In this connection, UNMEE is pursuing a strategy to encourage direct interaction between the peoples of both countries, such as the joint Ethiopian-Eritrean press conference mentioned in paragraph 41 above.

44. With regard to the Ethiopian and Eritrean religious leaders referred to in my last report to the Security Council (S/2001/608, para. 51), my Special Representative has maintained contact with them and encouraged them to make their plans to hold a joint meeting become a reality. Discussions have also taken place within the Military Coordination Commission on how to use that forum to promote confidence-building measures with regard to security issues.

IX. HIV/AIDS awareness and training

45. In a major United Nations effort to address human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) issues within peacekeeping operations, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Department if Peacekeeping Operations signed a cooperation framework in January 2001, outlining the areas of cooperation in this crucial field. UNMEE also established a joint HIV/AIDS Task Force with the participation of representatives from the Eritrean National AIDS Control Programme, the Health Service of the Eritrean Defence Forces and UNAIDS. The Task Force developed the UNMEE HIV/AIDS Programme, which aims at promoting an awareness and prevention campaign and developing further cooperation between UNMEE and the Eritrean Defence Forces to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS.

46. From 23 to 28 July, UNMEE, together with UNAIDS, organized the first joint UNMEE-Eritrean Defence Forces HIV/AIDS "Training of Trainers" course. The 25 participants included 13 representatives from the Eritrean Defence Forces and 12 UNMEE representatives from four contingents, as well as UNMEE force headquarters. The course, which was aimed at preparing trainers for UNMEE contingents and the Eritrean Defence Forces, was well received by the participants who, in turn, have followed up with training courses in their contingents. The training topics included basic facts on HIV/AIDS, the understanding of risk behaviour, as well as learning and teaching methods for adults. Preparations by UNMEE are under way for the implementation of a similar programme in Ethiopia.

X. Financial aspects

47. The General Assembly, by its resolution 55/252 B of 14 June 2001, authorized me to enter into initial commitments for UNMEE in the amount of $90 million covering the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, pending submission of my proposed budget for the Mission for the full 2001-2002 financial period during the main part of the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly. Therefore, should the Security Council approve my recommendations set out in paragraph 58 below regarding the extension of the mandate of UNMEE, the Mission's initial resource requirements for the financial

period 2001-2002 would be met from within the commitment authority granted to me by the General Assembly. As at 31 July 2001, unpaid assessed contributions to the UNMEE special account amounted to $158.9 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations at that date amounted to $3,466.9 million.

XI. Observations

48. UNMEE was established in its present configuration by the Security Council on 15 September 2000 (resolution 1320 (2000)). The three-month period under review, which completes the first year of the Mission's operations, has seen the gradual consolidation of the progress achieved previously. While the past 12 months have not been without difficulties, there are still grounds for satisfaction. The Mission's approach of steadily addressing the problems of the implementation of the peace process has yielded results.

49. With the submission of the UNMEE final map to the parties, the Temporary Security Zone, which was formally established by the Mission in April 2001, is now operational. While the two Governments have not formally accepted the map, their de facto respect for its parameters on the ground augurs well. For the first time in three years, the armies of Ethiopia and Eritrea have been fully separated and some of their soldiers are beginning to return home. The majority of internally displaced persons have also returned to their homes inside the Temporary Security Zone, and the processes of rehabilitation and reconstruction have begun. Fields that had remained untended are being ploughed, and everywhere people are seeking to rebuild their lives. The commitment to peace demonstrated by the parties has made this possible, and the same commitment must carry Ethiopia and Eritrea forward to the definitive resolution of their border dispute.

50. However, several outstanding issues remain, and the parties' cooperation in resolving them is crucial. As indicated in my previous reports, it is essential that both Governments grant UNMEE, in accordance with the universally established practice in peacekeeping operations, unimpeded and unconditional freedom of movement, including in the areas adjacent to the Temporary Security Zone. It is also essential that they agree to the establishment of the most direct high altitude flights between Asmara and Addis Ababa. Since the release and repatriation of prisoners of war is a fundamental aspect of the peace process, both parties are also strongly urged to resume and rapidly complete the unconditional release of prisoners of war. In addition, nationals of both Ethiopia and Eritrea should be allowed to remain, without any discrimination, in the locations where they have decided to settle.

51. As regards the status-of-forces agreement, it is regrettable that the Government of Eritrea has not yet agreed to sign it, despite my repeated appeals and the fact that the Security Council, in resolution 1320 (2000), requested that the status-of-forces agreement be concluded in October 2000. It should be recalled that the Government of Ethiopia signed the agreement on 22 March 2001. Also, the letter and spirit of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities and the Protocol Agreement on Militia and Police should be strictly respected to ensure that the Temporary Security Zone is effectively demilitarized. For its part, Ethiopia is expected to cooperate with UNMEE in ensuring that the Mission has the necessary access to all minefield information.

52. During the summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Lusaka in July 2001, I had the opportunity to meet separately with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia and President Isaias Afwerki of Eritrea to discuss the status of the peace process and the difficulties mentioned in the above paragraphs. In similar letters addressed to both leaders on 2 August 2001, I once again shared with them my concerns in this regard and I urged them to ensure that their Governments cooperate closely with UNMEE, in order to resolve the outstanding problems. I wish to reiterate the importance of such cooperation for the implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities.

53. The precarious humanitarian conditions prevailing in both countries, in particular the lack of food security and the need for emergency relief assistance, remain a source of concern. I therefore reiterate my call to the international donor community to respond generously to the United Nations Country Teams' consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance for Ethiopia and Eritrea. I also urge donors to support the humanitarian assistance activities of UNMEE through contributions to the newly established Trust Fund.

54. As reflected in paragraph 15 above, the presence of mines and unexploded ordnance remains a major

threat to UNMEE and the civilian population. The generous contributions provided by some Member States through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Mine Action managed by the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and through other mechanisms, are therefore very much appreciated. However, underfunding seriously hinders the United Nations capacity to train, equip and deploy humanitarian demining personnel with appropriate supervision. I urge those countries that are in a position to do so to contribute generously to these activities.

55. My appreciation also goes to the Member States that have provided voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Delimitation and Demarcation of the Border between Ethiopia and Eritrea. At the same time, I would like to reiterate my appeal to the parties, as well as to donors, to make further contributions to this Trust Fund, and to ensure the successful work of the Boundary Commission.

56. The devastating war between Ethiopia and Eritrea cost massive human life and severely damaged the economies of both countries. The bitterness and tragedy of this conflict continue to affect the relationship between Ethiopia and Eritrea and prevent the resolution of many pending issues. Despite this, the people of the two countries clearly yearn to rebuild their lives in peace and to renew the ties they had enjoyed before the war broke out. Needless to say that the United Nations will continue to assist both parties in engaging in confidence-building activities, in order to foster trust between them at various levels.

57. In the meantime, some political developments in both countries have given rise to anxieties that they could impact on the peace process. I trust, however, that both Governments will continue to act in accordance with the wishes of their people for lasting peace.

58. The progress achieved in the past year is a tribute to both Governments' commitment to peace, and to the common vision and action of the Member States involved, in particular the facilitators and guarantors of the Algiers Agreements, the Security Council and the troop-contributing nations. During the reporting period, UNMEE has continued to cooperate closely with the Organization of African Unity (OAU). While my Special Representative and I have maintained close political contact with the OAU, UNMEE has enjoyed a similar degree of cooperation at the military level both in the field and within the Military Coordination Commission, where the OAU is represented. I am confident that the progress achieved in the peace process can be sustained, with the continued involvement of UNMEE. In this context, I recommend that the mandate of UNMEE be extended for six months, until 15 March 2002.

59. In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation to my Special Representative and to all military and civilian personnel of UNMEE for their tireless efforts towards the consolidation of peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea. I would also like to express my gratitude for the invaluable support UNMEE has received from the OAU and the Member States assisting in this process.

Annex I

Eritrea/Ethiopia Boundary Commission

Second report on the work of the Commission

1. The present report provides an update on developments since my report of 29 May 2001 (S/2001/608, annex I).

2. The composition of the Commission has now been completed by the appointment by Eritrea of Professor Michael Reisman, announced on 12 June 2001.

3. This enabled the Commission to adopt on 20 June 2001, and communicate to the Parties, its Rules of Procedure.

4. In accordance with the schedule prescribed in article 16, paragraph 2, of these Rules, the Parties filed their Memorials, accompanied by annexes, on 30 June 2001. The Counter-Memorials are due to be filed not later than 22 September 2001.

5. On 16 July 2001, the President held an informal meeting with the representatives of the Parties in order to discuss various matters relating to the ongoing work of the Commission.

6. The Secretary has been requested to prepare large-scale and up-to-date maps essential for use initially in the delimitation and thereafter the demarcation process. Arrangements to this end are being made.

7. The Parties have duly made their initial contributions towards the expenses of the Commission. They have since been requested to make a second contribution.

(*Signed*) Sir Elihu **Lauterpacht**
President of the Commission

30 August 2001

Annex II

United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea: Contributions as at 31 August 2001

	Military observers	*Staff officers*	*NSE**	*Troops*	*Total*
Algeria	8				8
Australia		2			2
Austria	3	4			7
Bangladesh	6	6		160	172
Benin	5	3			8
Bosnia and Herzegovina	8				8
Bulgaria	4	2			6
Canada	6				6
China	5				5
Croatia	5				5
Czech Republic	2				2
Denmark	4	2			6
Finland	7	2			9
France		2	3	192	197
Gambia	4	2			6
Ghana	11	7			18
Greece	2				2
India	5	18		1 304	1 327
Ireland		2			2
Italy	3	7		128	138
Jordan	6	16		943	965
Kenya	11	13		600	624
Malaysia	7	5			12
Namibia	3	2			5
Nepal	4				4
Netherlands	1	6			7
Nigeria	6	4			10
Norway	5				5
Paraguay	2				2
Peru	2				2
Poland	6				6
Romania	8				8
Russian Federation	6				6
Singapore	2				2
Slovakia		4	2	199	205

	Military observers	*Staff officers*	*NSE**	*Troops*	*Total*
South Africa	5	2			7
Spain	3	2			5
Sweden	8				8
Switzerland	4				4
Tunisia	3	3			6
Ukraine	6				6
United Republic of Tanzania	7	3			10
United States of America	6	1			7
Uruguay	6				6
Zambia	10	4			14
Total	**215**	**124**	**5**	**3 526**	**3 870**

* National support element.

United Nations S/2001/844

Security Council

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Letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement made by the Chairman of the Milli Mejlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan in connection with the so-called "local elections" in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated urgently as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

01-52848 (E) 060901

Annex to the letter dated 4 September 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 5 September 2001 "elections" are planned to be held for local self-government bodies in the so-called "Nagorno-Karabakh Republic", established in the mountainous part of the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, the region occupied as a result of aggression perpetrated by the armed forces of Armenia.

The "elections" to local self-government bodies aimed at "legitimizing" the so-called "Nagorno-Karabakh Republic", which has been forcibly established by the armed forces of Armenia in the occupied areas of the Republic of Azerbaijan, accompanied by ethnic cleansing against Azerbaijanians, and not been recognized by any State in the world, contradict the principles and norms of international law, the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as commonly accepted moral norms and values, and hence are null and void and do not have any legal consequences.

Holding of the mentioned "elections" is another unsuccessful attempt to fix the results of the occupation by the Republic of Armenia of 20 per cent of the Azerbaijani lands and the expulsion of Azerbaijanians from these lands.

This is another act of political provocation that flagrantly violates the fundamental civil rights of 50,000 Azerbaijanians exiled from the mountainous part of Karabakh, shows once again that the Armenian separatists are not willing to give up their intention to hamper the efforts towards the peaceful settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and are prepared to do anything to preclude the securing of peace in the region.

The "elections" to local self-government bodies to be held in the mountainous part of the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan are nothing but a political show and will negatively affect the ongoing negotiations on the peaceful settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh problem, in particular the mediation efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group.

The Republic of Azerbaijan will never reconcile itself to the overt occupation and annexation of a part of its territory and will ensure the restoration of its territorial integrity using all available means.

Any legitimate public authorities, including local self-government bodies in the mountainous part of Karabakh, may be established only after the elimination of the results of the aggression of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, reinstatement of the sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan over all its territory, return of the Azerbaijani refugees to their homelands and restoration of the pre-occupation ethnic picture.

The international community should not remain indifferent to the fact that the occupation forces are flagrantly defying the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this regard, appreciating the firm and fair position taken by the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein, Mr. Ernst Walch, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Lord Russell-Johnston, and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Mr. Walter Schwimmer, who have considered as unlawful the "local self-government elections" planned in the

mountainous part of the Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I call on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Independent States Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Union of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference — the organizations to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a member, as well as the European Parliament and the North Atlantic Assembly, with which the Milli Mejlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan is maintaining close cooperation, to condemn the act of political provocation pursued in the occupied part of our independent State and to support the just cause of Azerbaijan.

Baku, 31 August 2001